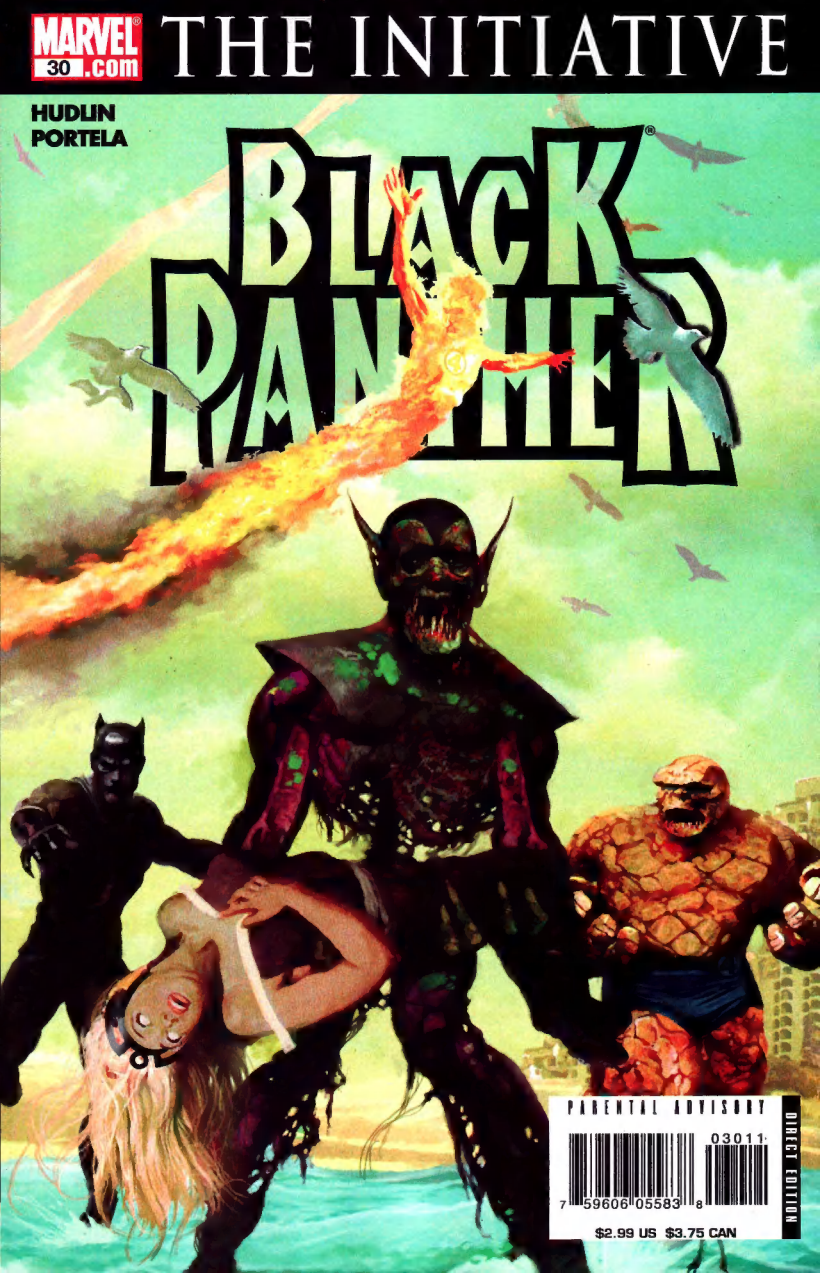
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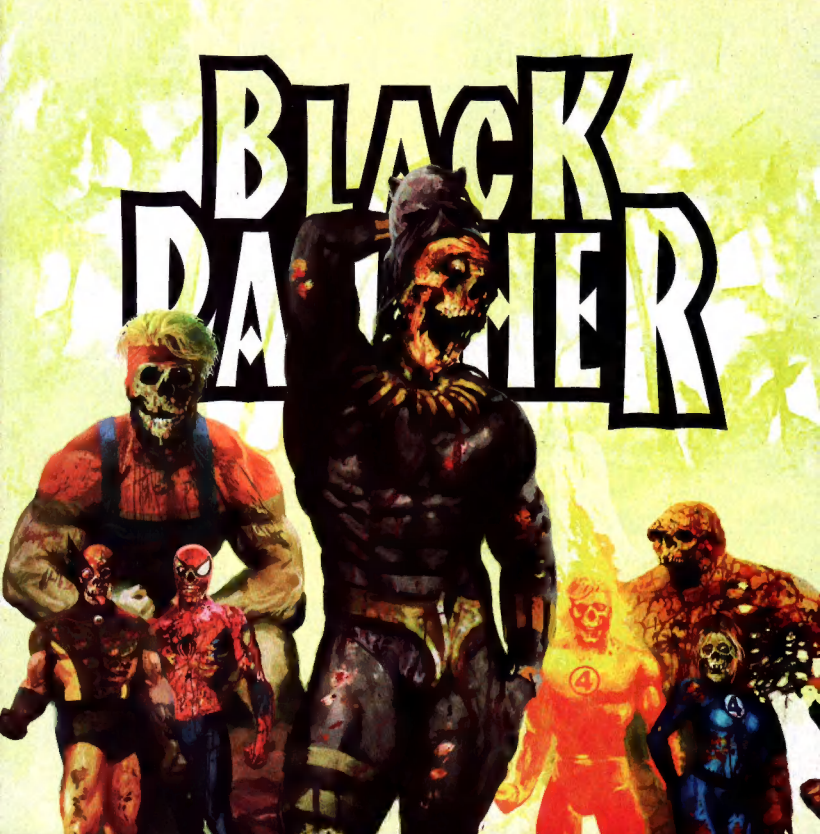

PREVIOUSLY

Unfettered by the yoke of colonization, the African warrior nation of WAKANDA flourished and became a high-tech, resource-rich, ecologically-sound paradise—one that makes the rest of the world seem primitive in comparison. Ruling over this kingdom are the BLACK PANTHER and his queen, STORM.

At the conclusion of America's super hero civil war, T'Challa and Ororo found themselves in desperate straits: on the losing side of the fray, at odds with Wakanda's ruling council, and without an embassy in the United States. However, their luck seemed to change when Reed Richards and Sue Storm offered the couple residence in the Baxter Building and their places in the Fantastic Four.

Desperate to keep a Negative Zone monster who had invaded the Baxter Building from running loose in New York City, T'Challa took a risk and used the unreliable magic of King Solomon's golden frogs to take the fight elsewhere. While the gamble did pay off and the team was able to extract the bug from the Baxter Building, they ended up somewhere far more perilous: on a Skrull homeworld in an alternate reality, one under attack by some familiar-looking zombies. After barely escaping the clutches of the Zombie Galacti, the new Fantastic Four planned to once again call upon the magic of the golden frogs…until they were interrupted by the arrival of their recently-zombified Skrull counterparts!

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ABSOLUTELY NO WAY TO WIN PART 3 OF 3

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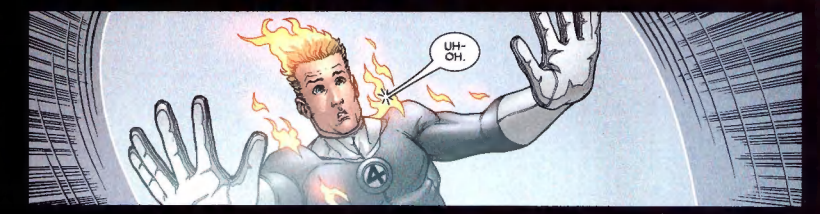


DON'T WORRY. I WILL FREE YOU BEFORE YOU DIE. LIVE FLESH IS SO MUCH TASTIER!
AARGGGH!
GASP!
GET SOME AIR IN YOU AND GET OUT OF HERE, JOHNNY!
TOO LATE!

WHAM
AWWW, SHADDUP!
YOU'RE FAST... FOR A HUMAN. BUT HOW LONG BEFORE YOUR LUCK RUNS OUT?
DON'T CONFUSE LUCK WITH SKILL.
SOONER OR LATER, YOU WILL--
SLAM
--NAIL YOU TO THE WALL? YES, NOW.

YOU... WITCH! ONCE I BURN THROUGH THIS, I--
YOU'LL DO NO SUCH THING.
WISE CHOICE, BELOVED. NOT ONLY DOES THE RAIN WASH OUT HIS CANNIBALISTIC INTENTIONS--
WOOOOOOOOSH
--BUT IT REVEALS THE ATTEMPTS OF THE INVISIBLE SKRULL TO LAUNCH A SNEAK ATTACK!
SHUNK
ARGH! NOT AGAIN!
THE ENERGY DAGGER SCRAMBLES HER THOUGHTS MOMENTARILY, BUT SHE QUICKLY RECOVERS. HOW CAN THEY RECOVER FROM SEVERE BRAIN TRAUMA LIKE THAT?

COME ON... PUNCH THROUGH... I'LL BITE WHOEVER ATTACKS FIRST...
-SNIFF-
...IS SOMETHING BURNING?
THIS IS A REVOLTING DEVELOOO
OOPGHPH!
GREAT WORK, JOHNNY! NOW I'LL COOL HIM OFF.

THIS IS OUT OF CONTROL... I MUST--
THUNK
DIE, IF IT'S AT ALL POSSIBLE.
YOU WORTHLESS HUMAN SCUM! HOW DARE YOU--
THUD
FINE, I'LL EVEN THE SCORE.
JOHNNY! FLY! NOW.
HELP ME, DARLING! IT'S ME!
LYJA!

SPURSH
GOOD SHOOTING, T'CHARLIE. GLAD YOU DIDN'T TAKE OFF JOHNNY'S FOOT.
I'M GLAD SKRULL PISTOLS DON'T HAVE SAFETY LOCKS.
ENOUGH SHOOTING OUT OF YOU, HUMAN!
THE WEAKEST ONE IS THE MOST DANGEROUS. WE'LL FIX THAT.

SORRY FOR THE IMPERSONAL TOUCH...
...BUT I DIDN'T WANNA TOUCH IT AND CATCH ANYTHING.
SLAM
JEEZ, HE'S DETERMINED!
LET'S SEE IF THIS DETERS HIM.
OWWW!
HOW DO YOU... DISMEMBER... AN ELASTIC... ZOMBIE?

WELL, LET'S START HERE.
WOW. YOU KNEW T'CHALLA WAS INSULATED?
WE'VE PLAYED THIS GAME BEFORE.
NOW IT'S TIME FOR ME TO FINALLY TAKE A STAND.
BAD MOVE, GENERAL... DON'T DO IT!
CHOMP
AAAIIEEEE!

BURN HIM BEFORE HE TURNS, JOHNNY.
DISGUSTING... BUT ON IT, BOSS!
FWOOSH
UGH! THEY WILL PAY FOR THIS!
I'VE GOT NO STOMACH... BUT I'M REALLY HUNGRY.
ZZAP

ALL RIGHT, HAND OVER THE TRANS-DIMENSIONAL DEVICE AND NOBODY GETS HURT.
YOU REALIZE YOU'VE GOT NO CREDIBILITY WITH THAT STATEMENT, RIGHT?
HE'S GOT A POINT. MAYBE WE SHOULD PROMISE A "QUICK AND PAINLESS DEATH" AS OPPOSED TO BEING EATEN ALIVE...?
SPEAK FOR SELF! HULK HUNGRY!
OH LORD, LISTEN TO US! DO YOU HEAR HOW FAR WE'VE FALLEN? WE USED TO BEAT UP PEOPLE WHO TALKED LIKE THIS! NOW WE'RE THE WORST ONES EVER!

PETER, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A SENSITIVE GUY, BUT LOOK AT IT THIS WAY. IF REED RICHARDS VOLUNTARILY WENT ZOMBIE, THEN THERE MUST BE SOMETHING TO IT. HE'S THE SMARTEST OF ALL OF US.
NO OFFENSE, TONY.
NONE TAKEN, HANK. YOU'RE MAKING A GOOD POINT. AND JUST LOOK AT ALL THE MENACES TO EARTH WE'VE WIPED OUT: THE BADOON, THE SHI'AR, AND NOW THE SKRULLS...
BUT WE WIPED OUT EARTH FIRST! SO WHO ARE WE SAVING?
PETE, MY MAN...
MAN UP! WE AIN'T GOT TIME FOR THIS! WE GOTTA EAT!

THANKS FOR BEING THE VOICE OF REASON, CAGE. I GOT NO PATIENCE FOR THE SOB-SISTER ROUTINE. I BEEN GRIM AND GRITTY MY WHOLE LIFE.
HULK CO-SIGNS TO THE FULLEST!
TIME TO TAKE A LITTLE TRIP.
HERE WE GO.
DAMMIT! THEY GOT AWAY!
YOU AND YOUR WHININ'...

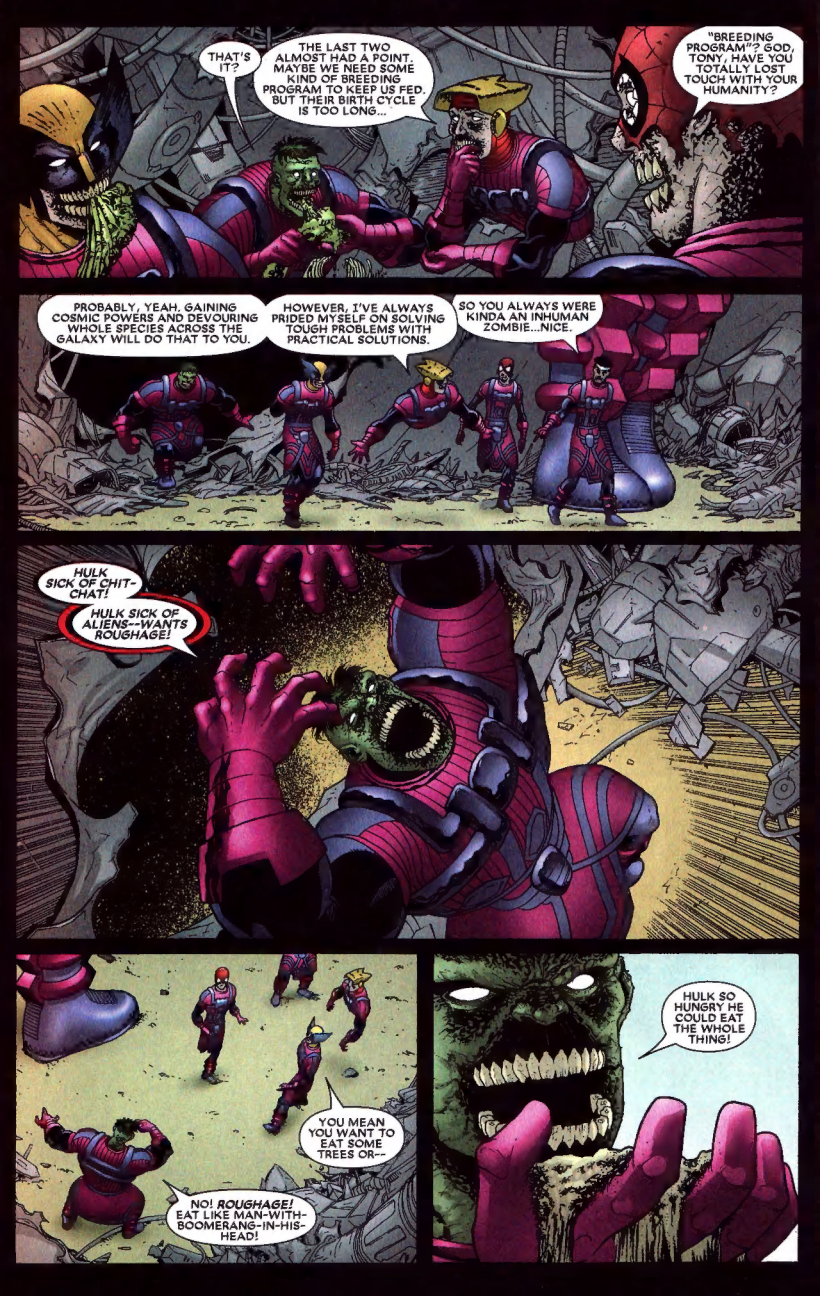
WHEW, THAT WAS CLOSE...
...MAKE THAT, WE ARE CLOSE.
LET'S JUST GET A LITTLE DISTANCE... QUIETLY...
I'LL SHIFT THE WINDS SO OUR SCENT DOESN'T REVEAL US...
WELL, AT LEAST WE HAVE A SHIP FULL OF SKRULLS TO HOLD US OVER. MOST LOOK DEAD, BUT I BET SOME OF THEM ARE JUST WOUNDED. GOOD EATING!
DON'T LET YOUR HUNGER BLIND YOU TO HIGHER GOALS. WE NEED THAT DEVICE!
LISTEN TO MR. STRATEGY HERE. THE HANNIBAL OF HARLEM.
I WILL PUNCH YOU INTO ORBIT, TIN MAN.

WHILE YOU BOYS SORT IT OUT, I'M GONNA ROOT AROUND FOR A SNACK, OKAY?
THERE'S GOTTA BE SOME LIVING SKRULLS IN HERE SOMEWHERE.
THE QUESTION IS NOT, "ARE THEY ALIVE?"...
...BUT "ARE YOU"?
THANOS?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
SURELY YOU MIGHT HAVE ANTICIPATED THAT YOUR APPETITES WOULD EVENTUALLY ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF MY MISTRESS...
...DEATH!

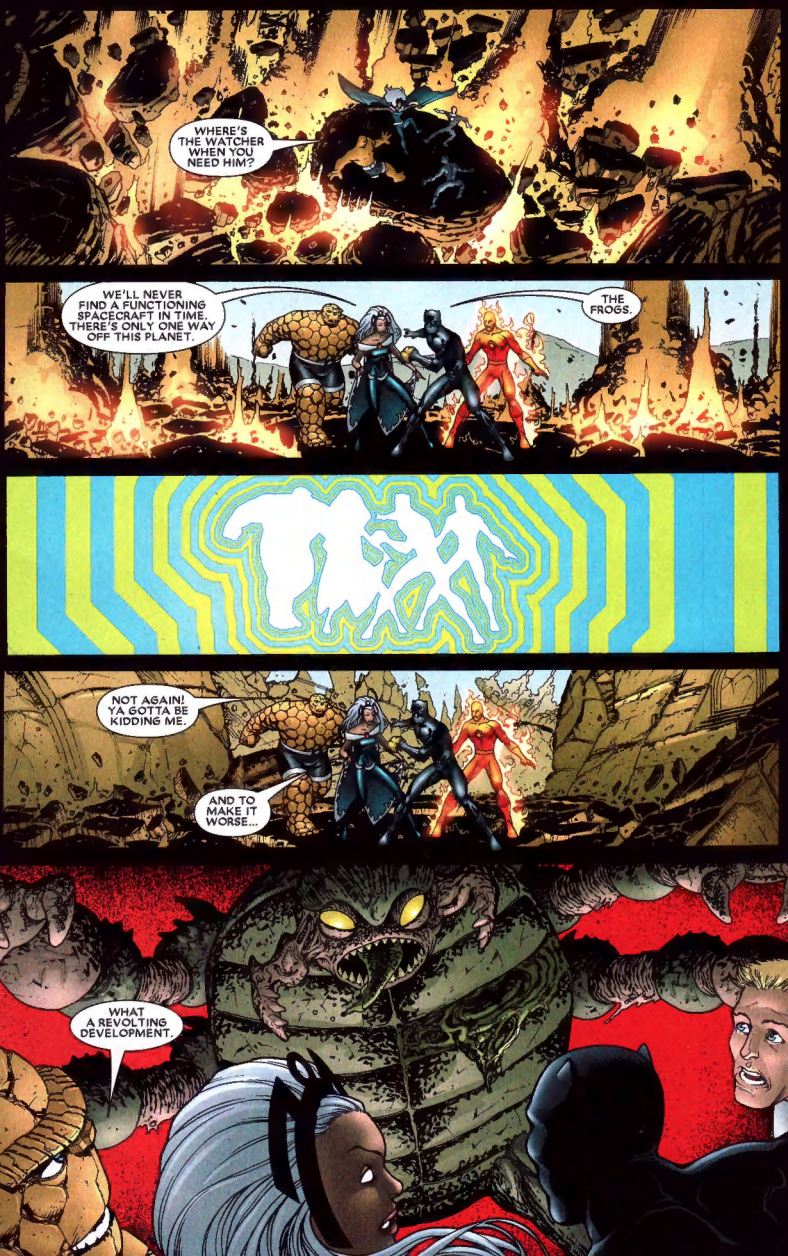
I ONCE TRIED TO END ALL LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE AS A GIFT TO HER. NOW YOU STAND ON THE EDGE OF THAT GOAL.
MY ADMIRATION FOR YOUR SUCCESS OUTWEIGHS MY JEALOUSY.
I HATE FREAKY COSMIC STUFF LIKE THIS.
FINALLY SOMETHING WE CAN AGREE UPON. WHERE'S DR. STRANGE WHEN YOU NEED HIM?
ATE HIM.
AS A REWARD FOR YOUR EFFORTS, MY MISTRESS IS READY TO GIVE YOU THE ULTIMATE GIFT:
HER *KISS*, AND THE COLD ETERNAL VOID OF HER EMBRACE.
HOLD ON THERE! JUST BECAUSE WE'RE THE UNDEAD, DOESN'T MEAN WE WANT TO, YOU KNOW, *DIE*.
WE COULD BE CURED! WHERE'S THE *COSMIC CUBE*? WE COULD UNDO ALL THIS!

NOT ME! I'VE HAD IT! THE GUILT IS UNBEARABLE! I WANT IT ALL TO END--NOW.
HEY... HOWCUM THEY AREN'T KILLING HIM, LIKE, FOR REAL?
ACTUALLY... ...I DON'T THINK THIS IS A TITAN AT ALL. NOT THAT I HAVE SPIDER-SMELL OR ANYTHING, BUT I THINK IT'S... ...SKRULL-MEAT.
C'MON... GOOD BLUFF, RIGHT?
IF YOU LET US LIVE, WE COULD BREED MORE--

OKAY, I CAN'T RUN ANYMORE. I'M FAR AWAY ENOUGH TO FLY, RIGHT?
NO, YOU'RE NOT FAR AWAY ENOUGH. GIANT-MAN WOULD SPOT YOU ON THE HORIZON LINE. YOU NEED NON-POWERS-BASED FITNESS TRAINING, JOHNNY. WE'VE ONLY RUN A COUPLE OF MILES NOW.
I GOT YA, LITTLE BUDDY!
OKAY, MY HUMILIATION IS COMPLETE.
DON'T TAKE IT SO HARD. I'M NOT USUALLY THE GUY TO BREAK OUT A FIVE-DOLLAR WORD, BUT THE ONLY WAY TO DESCRIBE THE PANTHER ■ "FORMIDABLE."
I'M NOT EVEN TRYING TO COMPARE MYSELF TO HIM. IT'S THAT I CAN'T EVEN KEEP UP WITH STORM!
YEAH, THAT IS PRETTY WEAK, JOHN-BOY.
BEN! THIS IS NO TIME FOR JOKES!
ONE THING YOU'LL LEARN ABOUT US, STORM...
...IS THAT THERE'S ALWAYS TIME FOR JOKES!


THAT'S IT?
THE LAST TWO ALMOST HAD A POINT. MAYBE WE NEED SOME KIND OF BREEDING PROGRAM TO KEEP US FED. BUT THEIR BIRTH CYCLE IS TOO LONG...
"BREEDING PROGRAM"? GOD, TONY, HAVE YOU TOTALLY LOST TOUCH WITH YOUR HUMANITY?
PROBABLY, YEAH. GAINING COSMIC POWERS AND DEVOURING WHOLE SPECIES ACROSS THE GALAXY WILL DO THAT TO YOU.
HOWEVER, I'VE ALWAYS PRIDED MYSELF ON SOLVING TOUGH PROBLEMS WITH PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS.
SO YOU ALWAYS WERE KINDA AN INHUMAN ZOMBIE...NICE.
HULK SICK OF CHIT-CHAT!
HULK SICK OF ALIENS--WANTS ROUGHAGE!
YOU MEAN YOU WANT TO EAT SOME TREES OR--
NO! ROUGHAGE! EAT LIKE MAN-WITH-BOOMERANG-IN-HIS-HEAD!
HULK SO HUNGRY HE COULD EAT THE WHOLE THING!

HE'S TALKING ABOUT... GALACTUS?
GREENSKIN MAY BE ONTO SOMETHING. WE HAVEN'T REALLY EXPLORED THAT ASPECT OF OUR ABILITIES.
ALRIGHT, HULK. YOU WANTED ROUGHAGE, YOU GOT IT!
NOW WHAT? THEY COMING AT US FROM UNDERGROUND?
NO...IT'S WORSE THAN THAT. I CAN FEEL THE WHOLE PLANET UNDER ATTACK. THE MAGNETIC FIELDS ARE SHIFTING.
I THINK ONE OF MY WORST-CASE SCENARIOS IS IN PLAY.


WHERE'S THE WATCHER WHEN YOU NEED HIM?
WE'LL NEVER FIND A FUNCTIONING SPACECRAFT IN TIME. THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OFF THIS PLANET.
THE FROGS.
NOT AGAIN! YA GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.
AND TO MAKE IT WORSE...
WHAT A REVOLTING DEVELOPMENT.

MMMM-HMMMM!
NOW THAT'S GOOD EATIN'!
NEXT: DEAD OR ALIVE?